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## **OLR Bill Analysis**

### **sSB 244**

#### ***AN ACT INCREASING HOME CARE PROVIDER RATES.***

#### **SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the social services commissioner to increase the fee schedule for services provided under the Connecticut Home Care Program for Elders (CHCPE) and the pilot program to provide home-care services to persons with disabilities by at least 1%, effective July 1, 2014.

The bill also requires, rather than allows, the commissioner to annually increase the fees for the following services based on their cost: homemaker, chore person, companion, respite care, meals-on-wheels, adult day care, case management and assessment, transportation, mental health counseling, and elderly foster care.

The bill also removes obsolete language regarding the payment rate for home-based services in the 1990s.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

#### **BACKGROUND**

##### ***Program Descriptions***

CHCPE is a Medicaid waiver and state-funded program that provides home- and community-based services for eligible individuals age 65 and older who are institutionalized or at-risk of institutionalization. The pilot program to provide home-care services to disabled persons is a state-funded program that provides the same services available under CHCPE to people age 18 to 64 who are institutionalized or at-risk of institutionalization.

##### ***Legislative History***

The Senate referred the bill (File 174) to the Human Services

Committee, which reported it favorably without any changes. The Senate then referred the bill to the Appropriations Committee, which reported a substitute that (1) lowers the minimum payment increase for services from 2% to 1% and (2) eliminates the additional rate increase in FY 16.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Aging Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 12 Nay 0 (03/11/2014)

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 17 Nay 0 (04/10/2014)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 49 Nay 0 (04/22/2014)